

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 16 and 17 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 16 and 17 have been amended to clarify that the method includes feeding to a sow during two consecutive periods of gestation and, optionally, during lactation, breeding and/or prebreeding amounts of L-carnitine or a salt thereof and chromium tripicolinate sufficient to enhance the farrowing rate of said sow in the second parity

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesies shown by the Examiner during telephonic interviews with applicants' attorney on March 27, 2006 and April 4, 2006.

Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

No fee is believed due with this submission. If, however, a fee is determined to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge it to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: April 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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